Previous references.

File No. 37 of 1

190 .

(Prisons)

Serial Nos. 1–3

Later references.

2.106 of 1903-04
— 38- 16 —4

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1–3

Part B. for 1904

SUBJECT.

Prison labour in the jails of Bangalore and Mysore and in the Lock-ups at the District and Taluk Head-quarters

---

1. No. 353 dated 10th Aug. 1903
From the I.Gl. of Prisons
To the I.Gl. of Prisons
Calls for a statement shewing in detail the utilization of Prison labour in the last two months in the jails at Bangalore and Mysore and in the Lock-ups at the Dt and Taluq Headquarters

2. No. 15 dated 7th January 1904 (J.1030)
From the I.Gl. of Prisons
Forwards the detailed statements called for

3. No. 1781 dated the 3rd March 1904
To the I.Gl. of Prisons
Records the above and observes that the

G. R. S. 58

e Dewan of Mysore.

File No. (if any)

Directions.

No., date and purport of receipts to be entered in red, and office note in black ink in order of dates.—To be written only on one side, and inside the line of margin.

Office Note.

Branch Judicial.

Letter No. 15 dated 7th Jany from the Secretary in Mysore.

Subject

The utilization of prison labour during June and July 1903, and proposals as to how they can be employed in a more remunerative manner than at present.

Govt in their Pro No. 353 dated 10th Augt observed that prison labour is scattered away in Jails and Dist. Lock-ups and called for a detailed statement showing its utilization in June & July of 1903 with the opinion of the D.G. as to whether any rules or general orders regarding the future employment of convict labour are desirable.

The D.C. in reply says that
nothing more could be made o
of jail labour than at presen
unless the out-door gangs of pri
are greatly reduced when labou
would be available & it would
be time to discuss how it co
could be employed.

The DC suggests that in his opinion
the prisoners, while sent outside
gangs, do little or no work wh
Compared with what free na
such as coolies, could do. To
quote his words he says
"Out door labour is a great
mistake, a mere premium on
laziness". As a remedy he
suggests that if they are kep
at inbramural labour they c
be obliged to work, as there
work could be given as a

definite task and that the
work would be distinctly
remunerative & profitable to
Govt. so much so that it
would pay better than at
extra mural labour & with the
proceeds pay free labour
Where Convict labour is now
employed extra murally. & the
present demoralization that
is the inevitable result of
extra mural labour. Mr Ewen
adds ~~that~~ that the present
Jail methods ~~are scarcely~~
could scarcely be regarded
as punishment for evil doers
while they are so well fed
comfortably housed and
clothed & the daily present
Convict
working about by the gang

Employed labour out door work.

The Jail Staff recommends therefore that extra mural labour ~~be~~ shd be adopted and that the Convicts normally so employed be put to profitable tasks within the Jail premises.

As regards the Convict labour in Dt & Taluk Lockups, the prisoners there being short-timers, generally they are employed in keeping Compounds of the Court building, Quarters Dt & Taluk offices, Hospitals Schools, clean, planting trees repairing roads & drains &

13.1.04

Subd Joaders.
13.1.04

There is much to recommend the proposal - But we must learn how the matter fares in British India, I think - May the J.G be asked to ascertain & report?

18/1/14

The D.O.
No. 1/1
2nd Councillor -

I doubt whether we can altogether abolish extra-mural labour - Let me see the Madras & Bombay Jail Manuals - Are there no rules therein in regard to the employment of convicts? C.

21-1-04

21/1/14

Submitted the correspondence
21/1/14

Sub[d]

Vide pages 82 to 94 + 226 of the Madras Rules for the management of Jails and pages 105 to 108 in the Mysore Jail Manual for the rules regarding the employment of Convicts.

23.1.04.

23/1/04

25/1/4

order of 27-11-04 was passed on
repeated representations made
to me by Col Benson. What
seems required is rules dom
- to that similar to those in
force in Madras - & that
Col Benson is expected back
here in a few days - This till
such time Madras & Mysore
fair demands may be received
& me a week or 10 days hence.

27-1-04

Mr
DO 00 - 27-1-04

File resubmitted as ordered.

4/2/04

4/2/04

I have discussed the
Question with Col Benson -
We are agreed that the total
abolition of the annual
Labor would be too violent
a change - and that all things
considered the best we can do is
the little advantage of the
Rules under revision &
the urgent - that is absolutely
necessary regarding the employment of Native Labor. Col Benson
proposes to write to
me on the subject.
16/2/04

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

9 – 2 – 04

Dear Col Benson,

Please see the accom-
-panying file – I don't
think we can abolish
out-door labor altogether
or make any other radi
changes. The only Ques-tion
is whether we should
not modify our Rules
in this respect. So as t
bring them into line with
the Madras Rules. Kindly
study the Question & plea

to me about it— at
your convenience — I
shall be at your service
any day next week
during office hours — & leave
the city ~~[illegible]~~ with you when
we [illegible] Kind regards &c.

Yours Sincerely
C Greenaway

J. G. Pinsons.

Replying to your Doc of
9. 2. 02. I beg to say that
I quite concur with you that
we cannot at present
entirely abolish out door
labor. However desirable
it may be. I beg to
be guided by those in charge
Jail Manual at our early
date so as to bring it
conformity as much as
possible with those of other
States or the Providences
& might also bear in
regarding the employment of
prisoners on outdoor labor
so as to meet the requirements
of the Province as we deem
desirable

H. Johnson. D.S.
Lt Col. &c
J. G. of Pinsons

25th Feb.
1902.

I agree. The correspondence may be read and recorded with the observation that the Fact Manual with suitable provisions in regards the Addition & Employment of Prison Labour is awaited – C

Subd to the Dewan 26/2/04 26/2/04

28.2.04

14B
27.2.04

Dew 2-3 pm

2-3 pm

Subd
SH
2/3/04

2 3 pm

G 17837
Serial 14

Pro: of the Governor Mysore.

Order. 353 5/10/03
J

Govt are not sure that prison labor is not frittered away in the Jails of Bangalore, Mysore and Shimoga and in the Lockups at the District and Taluk Head Quarters elsewhere. A statement showing in detail the utilization in the last two months of labor should be called for by the 2nd as early as possible. It is hoped that Col Bracken will scrutinize the statement carefully and favor Govt with his opinion as to whether any rules or General orders regarding the future employment of

5/11/02.

Hy
28
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28.11.02

labour are desirable -

5/8/3

27-11-02.

0357/3

3. VIII. 03

To The Dy C of Police
Mysore

From

Lt.-Colonel John Smyth M.D., I.M.S.,

Offg. Inspector General of Prisons

in Mysore, Bangalore.

To

H.V.Nanjundayya Esqr., M.A., M.L.,

Secretary to the Government of Mysore,

General and Revenue Departments, Bangalore.

No. 15/J Ene.15.

Dated 7th January 1904.

Sir,

With reference to Proceedings of Government No.353/J dated 10th August 1903, requesting that a statement showing in detail the utilization of prison labour in the last two months of June and July 1903, should be submitted together with my opinion as to whether any rules or general orders regarding the future employment of Convict labour are desirable, I have the honor to forward detailed statements as noted in the margin (to be obligingly returned when no longer required) as to how the prisoners in the Mysore and Bangalore Jails and Lock-ups have been employed during June and July of this year (1903), also copies of letters Nos.558 and 471 dated 28th and 26th November 1903 from the Superintendents of the Bangalore and Mysore Jails respectively as to how Jail labour could be made more remunerative.

2. It does not appear to me that much more can be made out of Jail labour than at present unless the outdoor gangs are greatly reduced. When thus we have available labour, it will be time enough to discuss how it is to be employed.

3. I am of opinion that outdoor labour is a great mistake a mere premium on laziness. I get a gang of five

Distribution lists of labour in Bangalore Central and Mysore Jails for June and July 1903. . . . .

Statement showing the utilization of convict labour during the above months in the Lock-ups of Bangalore District. . . . .

---------do---------Kolar District.
---------do---------Tumkur District
---------do---------Mysore ----do--
---------do---------Hassan ---do---
---------do---------Shimoga ---do--
---------do---------Kadur ---do---
---------do---------Chitaldroog . .
---------do---------

J 1036

8-1-04

1904

From The Offg: Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore.

To The Secretary to the Government of Mysore General & Revenue Departments

Dated Bangalore

Despatched 7th January 1904

Received

General No. 15

No. T

Submits statements showing the utilization of Prison labour during the months of June and July 1903, and proposals as to how they can be employed on a more remunerative manner than at present, with copies of letters from the Superintendents of both the Jails on the subject

Jail
8.1.04

Referred.

five men myself and I presume they work as well for me as they do for any one else and I have no hesitation in saying the 2 free men would do more work than these five and the latter require a guard to look after them. Similarly with the big Palace and Residency gangs - they do little or no work, compared with what these numbers should produce; as it is necessary to guard them several men have to be employed over one triffling matter, merely to keep them together that they may all be under the eye of the Warders. Free men could be employed on definite tasks over an unlimited area and work would be done.

4. If these prisoners who are thus educated to laziness were kept at intramural labour, they would be obliged to work as their work could be given as a definite task, and this work would be distinctly remunerative. In my opinion they could be made to work so profitably to Government, that it would pay to keep them at intramural labour and with the proceeds pay free labour where convict labour is now employed extramurally. It would not only pay but prevent the demoralization that is the inevitable result of the extramural labour. It seems to me ridiculous that the present Jail methods could be regarded as punishment for evil doing - well fed, comfortably housed and clothed and the day spent loafing about is the life of an extramural convict.

5. I have the honor to recommend therefore that extramural labour be stopped and that the men usually so employed be put to profitable tasks within the Jail, what this might consist of has been indicated in the proposals of the Superintendents of the Bangalore and Mysore Jails referred to in their letters copies enclosed vide para I supra.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

M.D.,
Lt.-Colonel I.M.S.,
Offg. Inspector General of Prisons

Office of the Superintendent of the Central Jail
Bangalore 28th November 1903.

No. 558.

From. F. Hume Wright Esquire
Superintendent
Central Jail, Bangalore

To Lieut. Col: J Smyth M.D., I.M.S.
Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore
Bangalore

Sir,

With reference to your docket No. 12878-9/J dated 12th November 1903, regarding utilization of convict labour in a more remunerative manner than that in vogue, I have the honour to submit the following statement and Proposals.

1. "Manufactures"

(a) 4 men are employed making baskets and rattan chairs and mending rattan work. Basket are required for the Jail Kitchens, garden, sanitary gangs, Kholie and other manufacturing Departments. Rattan chairs are made for the public or order, and rattan bottoms are put to chairs for Government use.

(b) 40 men, on an average, are employed as Carpenters and Black Smiths, and have continuous work making articles, for the Jail and for the various Government Departments

and for Government officials who pay for the same.

(c) 35 men are employed on carpet making which is probably the most paying industry in the Jail as carpets are now only made to order, and the Jail has more orders than it can execute on the existing looms.

(d) 12 men, on an average, are employed making cumblies for Jails, Lock-ups and Hospitals

(e) 18 men, on an average, are employed making coir matting and ropes.

(f) 25 men, on an average are employed at the cotton weaving looms weaving Khurries, towels, and Jail clothing.

(g) 16 men are employed making Jail clothing and repairing and making tents when ordered.

(h) 40 men are employed in the Jail Press. which is kept constantly employed printing and binding Government work.

(i) 6 men are employed bowing and dyeing wool for carpet manufactory.—

Total on manufactures :— 196.

There can be no question that the above employments are as remunerative as

as possible, without encroaching on the rights of free trade, as can be seen from the actual orders, the accounts of the raw materials and the actual sales.

"Garden and out-door gangs"

a) 85 men, on an average, are employed in the garden, and in dry weather 100 men are employed. Their work consists in drawing water, weeding, watering, planting cutting and digging, vegetables and grass, as an average of this 250 of vegetables are daily supplied from the garden for the prisoners as well as supply the Jail officers on fragment; this is a great source of profit no vegetables being bought from contractors. Most of these men are short-termers i.e. suffering less than one years imprisonment, and therefore can not be employed profitably on artisan work.

b) 170 men, or on average, are sent on gangs for extra mural labour. Of these, 60 are working for the municipality 50 to at the Race course, 5 to Mr. Kanthraj urs, 15 at the Residency; the remainder except occasional gangs for which the Persons employing them pay the guarding charges, are employed on Government work.-

(C) 150 men, on an average, are employed on intra-mural jail duties. Which, though not a source of actual revenue, are necessary for the well-being of the Jail. The Dhobies are however a source of profit; as they wash for the Jail officials, who pay for such washing.-

III "Without Work"

80 men, on an average, represent those under-trial sick, condemned etc; details are shown in the distribution statement submitted monthly; but civil debtors are not included under this head though shown in the grand total.

IV "Female convicts"

30 Women, on an average, represent those employed on spinning and picking wool for the carpets, cotton for weaving and ragi grinding and cooking for the female prisoners.

I propose in order to make Jail labour more remunerative to increase the number and size of the carpet and cotton weaving looms, to increase the capacity of the Jail press and place it directly in charge of the central press as a branch of that Institution which should be required to meet all the charges for labour, Plant etc. I also propose

to introduce oil extraction which is I believe a profitable industry; and I would strongly recommend the introduction of a Steam-Laundry which would be a great source of remuneration

To meet labour for these extensions, Manufactu and Laundry, I would propose to reduce the number of men employed in the garden and on intra-mural duties, there would also be available temporary extra mural gangs.

I need hardly point out that to introduce more remunerative labour on manufactures, it would be necessary to lay out money on plan but this would be re-couped as even now, I have been obliged to refuse several large orders for want of machinery to execute the As matters stand at present I do not think the labour can be made more remunerative unless the municipality, Race course and occasional employers of gangs be asked to pay for the labour at annas 1 and pies 6 per head per day, besides guarding charges

I should like, in this connection to visit a few of the best and largest Jails in British Territory to see and examine their methods of work, when I would be in a better

Position

position to pronounce an opinion on the introduction or extension of manufactures. If Government is pleased to send me on deputation I shall be glad to visit the Nerreda, Vellore Coimbatore, Salem, Cannanore and Cannanore jails, as all these have their own specialities and their own method of working I am of opinion that the manufactures can be increased and improved, and the labour better utilized, if the above suggestions are adopted.-

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
(Signed) G. Hume Wright
Superintendent Central Jail

"Copy"

M. D.
Lieut: Colonel I. M. S.
Offg: Inspector General of Prisons
in Madras

From

P. S. Achyuta Rao Esqr.

Superintendent, Mysore Jail.

To

Lt. Col: J. Smyth Dn.D., I.Dn.S.,

Offg. Inspector General of Prisons

in Mysore.

Dated 26th November 1903.

Despatched 27"

Received

General No: 471.

Enclosure No:

Sir,

In reply to your No. 1330-31/J dated 23rd Instant, I have the honor to report as under:-

As is obtained now the Jail is benefited to the extent of Rs: 1400/- a year by book transfer or cash payment for the prison labour employed outside the Jail under different Departments.

This amount of Rs. 1400/- is the charge of the pay of the Warders employed to guard the prisoners while working outside the Jail.

If the prison labour should be more remunerative than now the following conditions are necessary:-

(1) The labour now supplied to the Palace and the Curzon Bank and other Government Institutions should be stopped or charged for at the rate of 4 annas a day to each prisoner supplied.

(2) A Jail Garden should be started and vegetables grown therein sold for the supply of

the needful vegetables to the Contractor at the marked rates and to the public at slightly reduced rates than what rule in the market.

(3) The branch Press now existing in the City of Mysore should be transferred to the Jail and all Press work conducted therein and labour properly charged for.

(4) Such industries as are productive of good profits should be started in the Jail with a proper establishment, to work the same, entertained.

(5) All furniture needed for the different Government Departments Educational, Revenue &c^a in the District of Mysore and the adjoining Districts which in old times formed the Ashtagram Division should be purchased from the Jail and no where else.

It must however be distinctly stated that for carrying out the above suggestions the strength of the Jail should be increased by the admission of all men convicted by the several Courts in half the Province of Mysore viz; in the Districts of Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga and Kadur into the Mysore Jail and no life convicts sent to this Jail should be transferred to Bangalore.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
/Signed/ P. S. Achyuta Rao
Superintendent
Mysore Jail

"Copy"

Inspr. Genl.

Lt. Colonel J. Innes,
Inspector General of Prisons.

Read Serial 3

Letter No. 15/J dated the 7th January 1904 from the Offg. Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore, submitting as called for in Govt. Proceedings No. 353/J dated 10th August 1903 a statement showing in detail the utilization of prison labour during the months of June and July 1903 and suggesting that extramural labour may be abolished and the prisoners employed on more profitable ~~and reproductive~~ manner within the jail premises.

2. Note dated the 25th 1904 by the Inspector General of Prisons stating that out door labour cannot be entirely abolished however desirable it may be and that the rules regarding the

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]